

# Products...Target...Architecture Results

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## 1. Target Architecture Results

This section of the Target Architecture identifies accomplishments, achieved business outcomes and realized returns on investment that have occurred effecting the Target EA up to the publication date.

### 1.1. Reporting Method

Target Architecture accomplishments are reported, below, for three areas of activity:

- Accomplishments realized from completed projects; and incremental improvements from projects still underway;
- Adopted EA recommendations, which have resulted in creating new projects, in project consolidations or in discontinuing redundant or unneeded projects;
- The impact of the Office of Enterprise Architecture Management's involvement with the CPIC process and that involvement's impact upon the IT Portfolio.

Investment results are aggregated from FY-2006 through FY-2012; this is the implementation window for the present target architecture.

Business or Veteran Service Outcomes are described subjectively wherever the Return on Investment has not been determined.

One method the Enterprise Architecture determines its impact on cost savings/avoidance is by measuring the ratio of the Information Technology budget to the total VA budget. For the current year, the ratio was 3.64%. For the current funding year, the assumptions about the computation of ratio of the IT budget to the total budget is attached.

*Reference(s):*

- VA\_EA\_Results\_CostSavings\_Supporting Excerpts.pdf

### 1.2. Reported Project Results

The following table identifies results reported from various portfolio investments either as incremental improvement realized in development or as the result of complete project deployment. In a number of cases business outcomes have been achieved but cost avoidance and ROI have not been measured.

| Initiative Name | Initiative Status | Results Achieved | Realized Improvement | Related Strategic | Business or Veteran | Return on Investment | Information Source on |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|

|   |   | In   |   | Plan<br>Objective  | Service<br>Outcome   |   | Outcome  |
|---|---|------|---|--|--|---|--|
| One VA<br>Registration<br>and<br>Eligibility<br>Project | Incremental<br>Improvement<br>using<br>prototype<br>VADIR<br>database.<br><br>Project<br>under<br>Development | 2007 | Consolidation<br>of 4<br>distinct<br>data feeds<br>(from<br>DoD/DMDC<br>to VA) into<br>one<br>secured/encrypted<br>database<br>feed (a<br>total of 31<br>feeds must<br>be<br>consolidated<br>by project<br>end) | DoD/VA<br>Joint<br>Executive<br>Council<br>(JEC)<br>Strategic<br>Plan<br><br>Benefits<br>Executive<br>Council's<br>Objective<br>4.1  | Improved<br>data<br>management<br>and data<br>integrity,<br>improved<br>veteran<br>privacy<br>protection.  | TBD<br>(JEC<br>annual<br>report<br>2006,page<br>17<br>acknowledges<br>a reduction<br>in<br>maintenance<br>cost) | Project<br>Team<br>Status<br>Inquiry for<br>2/2007 |
|   |   | 2006 | Use of<br>VADIR<br>database<br>and its<br>query<br>capability<br>to reduce<br>the time to<br>verify<br>recently<br>discharged<br>veteran's<br>discharge<br>status from<br>150-days to<br>2-days.                | VA<br>Strategic<br>Plan:<br>"Simplify<br>the<br>administrative<br>rules and<br>regulations<br>governing<br>the<br>application<br>and<br>eligibility<br>determination<br>process" | Dramatically<br>improved<br>VA<br>response to<br>new<br>veteran's<br>application<br>for benefits<br>and<br>improved<br>overall<br>eligibility<br>turn-around | TBD   | Project<br>Team<br>Status<br>Inquiry for<br>2/2007 |
| VA<br>Web-Presentation<br>Standardization               | Non-CPIC<br>Initiative<br><br>Funded<br>from O&M  | 2006 | Standardizes<br>Look and<br>Feel of<br>(and<br>Accessibility  | VA<br>Directive<br>6102  | Reduced<br>cost of<br>Web Site<br>maintenance  | TBD   |  |

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|   | budget<br>Project Complete  |      | to) VA Web Sites<br><br>Implements Directive by establishing Web Site Development Standards  |   | Provides viewers with a consistent look, feel, and functionality<br><br>Enforces Section-508 Usability Standards   |   |  |
| VA Web Content Management Standardization | Non-CPIC Initiative<br><br>Funded from O&M budget<br><br>Project Complete | 2007 | Standardizes Configuration Management of VA static Web Content<br><br>Implements Directive by establishing Configuration Management Standards                | VA Directive 6102                           | Assists in identifying abandoned web Sites<br><br>Limits VA's exposure to criticism and limits VA's liability for posting incorrect or obsolete data                   | TBD   |  |
| Exchange Server Consolidation Program     | Project Phase-1 Completed   | 2006 | The first phase is complete. It consolidated over 100 disbursed messaging systems into a shared resource complex of 25 centrally managed messaging sites and | VA Strategic Plan, enabling goals E3 and E4 | This project dramatically improved the service of VA's electronic messaging facility by<br><br>1) Eliminating obsolete servers that could not be placed under hardware | ROI occurs through the enhanced security, availability, reliability, and capacity of VA's messaging infrastructure<br><br>Since most of the legacy infrastructure which was replaced, | EA Project Review with Nelda Cook 2/5/2007 |

|                               |                  |      |   |  |  |   |                   |
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|                               |                  |      | <p>provided standardized VA e-mail addressing.</p> <p>Phase-II is not funded and not scheduled.</p> |  | <p>maintenance contracts,</p> <p>2) Replacing Exchange 5.5 Software (no longer supported by the vendor) with current Exchange-2007 Software</p> <p>3) Enhancing security thru the use of supported COTS software for which security patches are still available.</p> | <p>was too old to be under maintenance. it is difficult to demonstrate a direct cost savings.</p> |                   |
| Regional Computing Initiative | Project in Pilot | 2006 | <p>This project will consolidate 120 of VA's local data centers into six regional centers</p>       | <p>VA Strategic Plan, enabling goals E3 and E4</p> | <p>Preliminary results of the projects pilot includes consolidating the VISN-3 and VISN-20 data centers into a pilot regional facility</p> <p>The pilot reduces</p>  | TBD   | BY-2008 Portfolio |

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|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |  | total facility acquisition and maintenance cost as well as redundant server hardware and software licensing and it optimized the location and use of technical staff, freeing redundant support staff for other responsibilities |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

### 1.3. Adopted EA Recommendations

The following EA project recommendations, which were included in EA V4.1 (Feb 2006), were subsequently acted-upon and satisfied by the establishment of the cited projects.

| EA V4.1 Recommendation  | Resulting BY-2008 Improvement  | Explanation   |
|---|--|---|
| EA V4.1 Recommended creation of a new project to integrate the identity management services (created by the registration eligibility project) into VBA's benefit business processes and legacy systems. | The BY-2008 portfolio established the VBA Application Migration Project that will eliminate obsolete technology and integrate Registration Eligibility Identity Management Services. | The scope of the existing Registration Eligibility Program included developing a single authoritative source for veteran identity and demographic data, eliminating redundant and sometimes conflicting stove-piped identity information sources among the benefit business lines. However that project's scope did |

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|   |   | not include integrating the newly created identity services with legacy applications.  |
| EA V4.0 and EA V4.1 identified the need to develop a formal project under CPIC and PM Oversight to integrate data differences, introduced by the DoD/DIMHRS process into VBA's benefit systems. | The VBA Application Replacement Project will have and unfunded, optional task to implement changes introduced by DoD/DIMHRS   | VBA had managed a very successful, IPT effort to communicate VA data needs to DoD/DSIMHRS and to obtain favorable data design accommodations from DoD/DIMHRS to meet VA needs. However this IPT effort was not funded and was not charged with the task of ensuring that these changes were implemented into existing applications.  |
| EA V4.1 identified the need to initiate a project to replace the discontinued AAIP User Authentication and Authorization project  | The BY-2008 portfolio established the Personal Identity Verification (PIV) Project to develop and implement a Personal Identity Verification card that would meet VA's needs for a standard for user authorization and authentication with non-repudiation. | With the discontinuation of the AAIP project, there was no mechanism to positively identify veterans and VA personnel, with non-repudiation. In order to satisfy the secure sign-on requirement to accomplish veteran self-service objectives and user single sign-on objectives, this functionality was still required. This gap would have affected Contact Management among other programs. |

#### 1.4. EA Portfolio Development Impact

OEAM took the following actions, during 2006 to use the EA to positively affect the BY-2008 IT Portfolio.

| BY-2008 Event  | OEAM Activity  | Rational  |
|--|--|---|
| Enterprise Architecture Exhibit<br>300 Budget Request Review | During BY-2008 Budget Preparation, OEAM/EAS reviewed over sixty budget requests through four review cycles to assure alignment with the PMA/e-Gov program, with VA | A high level of integration, data reuse and sharable service reuse was assured across the BY-2008 portfolio. The resulting project EA scores are reported within the <i>Target Architecture Project</i> |

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|   | strategic objectives and with enterprise architecture standards.  | <i>Abstracts Section.</i>  |
| EA participation within the Investment Review Working Group (IRWG) during August 2006 for BY-2008 | OEAM/EAS provided review questions to assist the IRWG in prioritizing the BY-2008 IT Portfolio. Then OEAM actively participated in the review process.  | The Chief Architect is the vice-chair of the Investment Review Working Group (IRWG), which is chaired by OIT/005P Policy and Plans and is comprised of business leaders, Capital Investment Analysts and Enterprise architects. The IRWG reviews and prioritizes all potential IT investments prior to portfolio formation. The IRWG used the EA and IRWG-tailored questions to screen, improve, cull, and prioritize the Ex-300 Budget Requests submitted for BY-2008.  |
| VHA structured review and prioritization process (IDMC) for unfunded investments.                 | In addition to participating as a voting member OEAM's contribution to the group was to ensure that sound business justification was provided for each initiative, that architectural principles were observed and that duplicative efforts were avoided. | <p>During mid-2006, VHA conducted a structured review process (IDMC) to re-prioritize all unfunded investments that were cut from the BY-2007 budget during the BY-2007 Pass-Back Phase. This group consisted of Primary Business project sponsors, VHA executives and it included the Chief Architect and a CPIC representative among forty voting members.</p> <p>The process required projects under review to be briefed by a senior business stakeholder and to be QAed by the review committee before a vote to determine the projects importance to veterans, VA operations and to other external stakeholders (agencies).</p> <p>I sufficiently supported projects were held back for further review, while successfully supported projects were prioritized to form a strategy for resubmission in subsequent portfolios.</p> |



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| EA participation within the IRWG Deep Dive process | The Chief Architect and Deputy Chief Architect organized and led a special session of the IRWG called the "Deep Dive" in which all investments were reexamined for business merit and to eliminate redundancy | This process resulted in a \$230M reduction in the IT development budget request for BY-2008 |
|--|---|--|